



# Mekong River Cruise to Luang Prabang

**Trip Duration: 4 Days / 3 Nights**

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## SUGGESTED ITINERARY

Please note that this itinerary is just a suggestion and can be easily amended to suit your needs. Let us know if you would like to make any changes and we will be more than happy to suggest an alternative itinerary for you.

### **Day 1 Houei Say – Cruise to Pakbeng**

**L, D**

The Luang Say boat leaves Houei Say pier at 9.00am for a cruise down the Mekong River to Pakbeng. En route, one stop is made to observe rural life along the Mekong and observe minorities. A buffet lunch is served on board. We arrive in Pakbeng before sunset and check in at the Luang Say Lodge or the Pakbeng Lodge. Dinner at a local restaurant.

### **Day 2 Pakbeng – Cruise to Luang Prabang**

**B, L**

You will enjoy a full breakfast at the Lodge. (Optional: walk to Pakbeng market, where people from the surrounding village of minorities sell their goods). At 8.30am board the boat for the second leg of the cruise. A short stop is made to visit a hilltribe village where you can watch the traditional process of Lao whiskey production before having a buffet lunch on board. Continue to Pak Ou village at the mouth of the Nam Ou River, where you visit the Tam Thing Caves of a Thousand Buddhas. Arrive at Luang Prabang before sunset.

### **Day 3 Luang Prabang**

**B, L**

If you wish, get an early start (6:00am or so) and go watch or participate in the traditional Lao rite of Almsgiving to the monks. In the city, some 300+ monks file through silently collecting alms. This is an amazing sight and your guide will be on hand to demonstrate and explain this important ritual. If you wish, also visit the bustling Morning Market and learn about the many foods the locals buy. Return to your hotel for breakfast.

Enjoy a tour around the atmospheric town of Luang Prabang. Visit Wat Xieng Thong, the finest example of Luang Prabang architecture, as well as the gilded carved façade of Wat Mai. Also visit the National Museum, the former Royal Palace, where relics from Laos' royalist past remain. It is said that those who do not climb the 328 steps up Phousi Mountain have not really made it to the city. Venture up the hill and be rewarded with remarkable views of the area. Journey back down the southern slope to the Traditional Arts and Ethnology Center, a private museum displaying interesting information on the tribal peoples of Northern Laos

**Day 4 Luang Prabang – Onward**
**B**

Travel south of town to the Kuang Si Waterfall. Stop along the way to visit the Living Crafts Centre, a place where you can meet weavers and learn about textiles, while helping keep these traditions alive. At the falls, crystal water cascades into idyllic turquoise pools. Bring a bathing suit if you would like to swim! Also take time to visit the nearby Sunbear Refuge to learn more about the poaching of these endangered creatures. Transfer to the airport for your flight onward.

**End of Services**

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**Accommodation:**

Location	Hotel	Website	Room Type
Pakbeng	Luangsay Lodge	<a href="http://www.luangsay.com">www.luangsay.com</a>	Standard
	Pakbeng Lodge	<a href="http://www.pakbenglodge.com">www.pakbenglodge.com</a>	Standard
Luang Prabang	Villa Chitdara (3 Star)	<a href="http://www.villachitdara.com">www.villachitdara.com</a>	Standard
	Villa Santi Hotel (4 Star)	<a href="http://www.villasantihotel.com">www.villasantihotel.com</a>	Deluxe
	Villa Maly (5 Star)	<a href="http://www.villa-maly.com">www.villa-maly.com</a>	Superior

**PRICE/PERSON**

Price per pax in USD	2-3 Pers	4-6 Pers	Single Room Surcharge
3 Star May-Sept 2010	650	579	180
3 Star Oct 2010-Apr 2011	888	816	239
4 Star May-Sept 2010	721	650	250
4 Star Oct 2010-Apr 2011	968	897	319
5 Star May-Sept 2010	834	762	344
5 Star Oct 2010-Apr 2011	1,127	1,056	450



**Tour includes:**

- Accommodation based on twin shared at above selected hotels with daily breakfast  
Check-in time at all hotels is 2.00PM and check-out time at all hotels is 12.00pm
- Meals as mentioned (B= Breakfast, L= Lunch, D= Dinner)
- Local English speaking tour guide during guided time only
- Entrance fees
- All transfers as mentioned by air-conditioned vehicle

**Tour excludes:**

- Travel Insurance (Compulsory)
- Visas
- Others flight not mentioned above
- Meals, drinks and other those mentioned in the itinerary
- Laundry, telephone calls and expenditure of a personal nature
- Tips and gratuities

*Travel insurance is compulsory for all our trips. We require that, at a minimum, you are covered for medical expenses including emergency repatriation. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Contact your local travel insurance/bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.*

**IMPORTANT NOTES (please read carefully):**

- Please be aware that flight times, hotels and all other logistics, services and days of travel are subject to availability. Where flights are cancelled or delayed Buffalo Tours will endeavor to secure alternative arrangements of similar value as noted in our booking conditions.
- This quotation is valid **now until 30<sup>th</sup> April 2011**. Any bookings made after this date are subject to change, as local economic conditions require.
- The traveling times mentioned within this dossier are approximations only. These times will vary according to weather, road, traffic or any other prevailing conditions.
- This itinerary and supplementary information has been compiled in good faith and was accurate at time of writing. However short notice changes might occur in the situation requires.